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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 42nd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. PETRESKI (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.40 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.14 and L.64)

Draft resolutions on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (A/C.2/50/L.14 and L.64)

1. Mr. STADTHAGEN (Nicaragua), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.64, submitted on the basis of informal consultations on document A/C.2/50/L.14. The words "of the Secretariat" in the first line of paragraph 3 should be deleted. The last portion of paragraph 7, beginning with the words "and, in this context,", should be inserted at the end of paragraph 1 and the remainder of paragraph 7 should be deleted. He recommended the draft resolution, as orally revised, for adoption by consensus.

2. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.64, as orally revised, was adopted.

3. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.14 was withdrawn.

4. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should take note of the notes by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Population Award (A/50/132), Progress in the implementation of the global AIDS strategy (A/50/175-E/1995/57), and Revision of the general regulations of the World Food Programme and reconstitution of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (A/50/706).

5. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 95: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.19 and L.59)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries (A/C.2/50/L.19 and L.59)

6. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee), commenting on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.59, said that the draft resolution would request the Secretary-General to convene in 1997, within the overall level of resources for the biennium 1996-1997, another meeting of governmental experts from land-locked and transit developing countries, representatives of donor countries and financial and development institutions. The meeting, to be held in Geneva in 1997, would be of one week's duration and would require documentation, interpretation and other language services.

7. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.59, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft

resolution A/C.2/50/L.19. Consensus had been reached during informal consultations, and he therefore recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

8. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.59 was adopted.

9. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.19 was withdrawn.

(d) SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.38 and L.62; and L.25 and L.68)

Draft resolutions on the United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa (A/C.2/50/L.38 and L.62)

10. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.62, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.38. Consensus had been reached during informal consultations and he therefore recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

11. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.62 was adopted.

12. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.38 was withdrawn.

Draft resolutions on science and technology for development (A/C.2/50/L.25 and L.68)

13. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.68, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.25. Consensus had been reached during the informal consultations. He wished, however, to draw the Committee's attention to a number of editorial changes. In the sixth line of paragraph 2, the words "as well as to modify" should be deleted and the word "to" should be inserted after "and". In paragraph 3, the phrase "to meet all the objectives affirmed in Chapter 34" should be revised to read "to meet all the objectives as reaffirmed in Chapter 34". The word "vital" in paragraph 5 should be replaced by "important". In paragraph 11, the word "welcomes" should be deleted, and the words "so that they would have a" in paragraph 14 should be replaced by the word "for".

14. Mr. SHINODA (Japan) said that Japan attached great importance to the issue of science and technology for development and had therefore taken an active part in the discussion of the draft resolution and had joined in its adoption by consensus. In the light of the form which the draft resolution had taken, however, he wished to make an important point for the record.

15. During the deliberations on an agenda for development, Japan had stressed the importance of establishing a development strategy for each developing country in accordance with its stage of development and the particular conditions that prevailed in its domestic economy. Individual strategies must likewise be formulated on the basis of the needs of developing countries in the area of science and technology for development, since the needs of small island States differed from those of States that were land-locked, and tropical countries had different needs from those in temperate zones.

16. Assistance could only be effective if it was directed where needed. The draft resolution failed to take fully into account the specific needs of

individual countries and therefore required no specific effort to meet those needs. In those circumstances, it was difficult to see how the draft resolution could achieve the objectives set out in it.

17. Mr. CABACTULAN (Philippines) said that, while he appreciated the editors' help in refining the texts of draft resolutions agreed upon by the Committee, editors should consult with the coordinators of informal consultations about proposed changes to texts in order to avoid unnecessary delays and to facilitate the Committee's work in general. The replacement of the word "vital" by "important" in paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.68, for example, could not be construed as a mere editorial correction.

18. The statement just made by the representative of Japan raised a number of concerns for his delegation. Many of the positions taken by Japan during the informal consultations had been accommodated in the draft resolution. Inevitably, however, such a draft resolution was the result of a process of give and take and represented the best result that could be achieved at that point in time. The provisions of the draft resolution were of critical importance to developing countries as a whole, whatever their individual circumstances. Moreover, it was important for the international community to respect the political solidarity displayed by the developing countries.

19. The CHAIRMAN observed that editors could not change at their discretion texts which had been agreed upon by delegations.

20. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.68, as orally revised, was adopted.

21. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.25 was withdrawn.

22. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had thus concluded its consideration of sub-item 95 (d).

(f) WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on women in development (A/C.2/50/L.46 and L.66)

23. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.66, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.46. He wished to draw the Committee's attention to a number of editorial changes. In paragraph 6, the words "at the above-mentioned Conference" should be replaced by "in Beijing" and the phrase "an enabling environment by, inter alia, removing" should be changed to read "an enabling environment through, inter alia, by removing". In paragraph 10, the phrase "by increasing women's access" should be changed to read "through increased access" and, in the fifth line, the word "by" should be inserted after "as well as". Consensus had been reached during informal consultations, and he therefore recommended the draft resolution for adoption.

24. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.66, as orally revised, was adopted.

25. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.46 was withdrawn.

26. Mrs. HORIUCHI (Japan) said that "Women in development" was an important area to be promoted with a view to the advancement of women. Her delegation therefore strongly supported draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.66. However, it was regrettable that neither the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) nor the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) had been mentioned in the draft resolution, since both of those organizations were undertaking development assistance solely for the empowerment of women.

27. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.46 was withdrawn.

(g) HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolutions on developing human resources for development (A/C.2/50/L.34 and L.70)

28. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.70, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on A/C.2/50/L.34.

29. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.70 was adopted.

30. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.34 was withdrawn.

(j) UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE ON OPPORTUNITY AND PARTICIPATION (continued)

Draft resolutions on a United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation (A/C.2/50/L.36 and L.60)

31. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.60, submitted on the basis of informal consultations on A/C.2/50/L.36.

32. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.60 was adopted.

33. Mr. DELANEY (Papua New Guinea) said that the member States of the South Pacific Forum, which included his country, attached great importance to the United Nations initiative on opportunity and participation. The United Nations Panel on Opportunity and Participation consisted of individual experts from within and outside the United Nations system; the work of the Panel, together with the report it had produced, was the first step in the development of the concept and in promoting its wider practical application. The draft resolution just adopted left many windows open for the international community to continue its support for efforts being made by national Governments to create more opportunities and encourage broader participation by all people in social and economic development activities.

34. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.36 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 96: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.28, L.35, L.69 and L.71)

Draft resolutions on the Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/C.2/50/L.28 and L.69)

35. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.69, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.28.

36. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.69 was adopted.

37. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.28 was withdrawn.

(f) INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION (continued)

Draft resolutions on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (A/C.2/50/L.35 and L.71)

38. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.71, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.35 and drew attention to one minor drafting change. In paragraph 9, third line, the words "by, inter alia," should be replaced by the words "including through".

39. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.71, as orally revised, was adopted.

40. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.35 was withdrawn.

Draft decision on the report of the Secretary-General on core functions of the decade (A/50/521)

41. The CHAIRMAN introduced a draft decision, for consideration under sub-item 96 (f), which would read as follows: "The General Assembly takes note of document A/50/521, Report of the Secretary-General on core functions of the decade, submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/47 B."

42. The draft decision was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 98: TRAINING AND RESEARCH: UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.43 and L.63)

Draft resolutions on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/C.2/50/L.43 and L.63)

43. Mr. STADTHAGEN (Nicaragua), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.63, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.43. He drew attention to a number of minor drafting changes and to the need to insert "33rd" in paragraph 3 before the reference to the session of the Board. In addition, in paragraph 5, the words "office of" before "Executive Director" should be deleted.

44. Mr. ALIOU (Cameroon) drew attention to an amendment required in order to bring paragraph 5 of the French text into line with the English. In line 1 of paragraph 5, after the word "mesures", the word "appropriées" should be inserted.

45. Draft resolution E/C.2/50/L.63, as orally corrected, was adopted.

46. Draft resolution E/C.2/50/L.43 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 100: RENEWAL OF THE DIALOGUE ON STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP (continued) (A/C.2/50/L.11 and L.67)

Draft resolutions on renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (A/C.2/50/L.11 and L.67)

47. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.67, submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.11, and drew attention to one drafting change.

48. Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States) said that her delegation attached great importance to the draft resolution on the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership. However, she wished to register her delegation's strong reservations with respect to paragraph 2 of the proposed resolution. She reaffirmed that it was the understanding of the United States that the term "sustained economic growth" as it appeared in resolutions referred to growth in the context of sustainable development as referred to in paragraph 6 of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and affirmed by the Heads of State and/or Heads of Government from over 130 countries at the World Summit for Social Development. The paragraph in full read:

> "We are deeply convinced that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which is the framework for our efforts to achieve a higher quality of life for all people. Equitable social development that recognizes empowering the poor to utilize environmental resources sustainably is a necessary foundation for sustainable development. We also recognize that broad-based and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development is necessary to sustain social development and social justice."

She asked that her statement should be reflected in full in the record of the meeting.

49. Ms. WONG (Australia) and Mr. LANGLEY (New Zealand) said that their delegations wished to associate themselves fully with draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.67.

50. Mr. MONTOYO (Colombia) welcomed the statements made by the representatives of Australia and New Zealand. He proposed two amendments to the Spanish text of the draft resolutions. In paragraph 5, the words "tema central" should be replaced by the words "foco de la discusión". In paragraph 6, the word "grandes" should be replaced by the word "principales".

51. Mr. CABACTULAN (Philippines), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, welcomed the statements made by the delegations of Australia and New Zealand and expressed his appreciation to them for their positive interventions relating to the very important resolution under consideration.

52. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.67, as orally amended, was adopted.

53. Draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.11 was withdrawn.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.